Preliminary Amendment

Applicant(s):

Peixuan GUO et al.

Serial No.: Filed:

Unassigned (Int'l Appln No.: PCT/US 2003/039950) Herewith (Int'l Appln Filed: 16 December 2003)

For:

pRNA CHIMERA

Remarks

Prior to taking up the instant application for examination, entry of the amendments submitted herewith is respectfully requested.

Substitute Specification

The specification is amended to add sequence identifiers, update the priority information, and correct typographical errors. In view of the large number of changes, Applicants submit a Substitute Specification incorporating the changes in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.125(b). Both a "marked up" copy of the substitute specification and a clean copy of the specification are included. No new matter has been added.

Claim Amendments

The claims are amended to remove multiple dependencies.

Replacement Drawings

The drawings are amended for formalization and also to correct obvious errors in Figs. 8 and 11b. The attached 30 sheets of drawings include changes to Figure 8 (sheet 12/30) and the spelling of the word "Hexamer," and to Figure 11b (sheet 15/30) with regard to the sequence identifiers.

More specifically, in the drawings as filed, Figure 8 mistakenly contained the word "Hemxamer," which was an erroneous misspelling of the word "Hexamer." The formal drawings included herewith have rectified Figure 8 to include the correct spelling of the word "Hexamer."

The correction to Fig. 11(b) identifies an RNA sequence within the pRNA chimera, not a DNA sequence. Corrected drawing sheet 15/30 enclosed herewith includes changes to Figures 11b. This sheet, which includes Figures 11(a) and 11(b), replaces the original sheet including Figures 11(a) and 11(b). Specifically, this Figure contains an RNA sequence within the pRNA chimera.

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The 30 sheets included herewith replace the original sheets as published with International Application No. PCT/US 2003/039950. Please enter the 30 sheets of formalized drawings submitted herewith.

Sequence Listing

Please enter the paper copy of the Sequence Listing and the disk containing the computer readable form of the Sequence Listing submitted herewith. No new matter has been added.

The undersigned hereby states that the Sequence Listing submitted concurrently herewith does not include matter which goes beyond the content of the application as filed and that the information recorded on the diskette submitted concurrently herewith is identical to the written Sequence Listing.

Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives at the below-listed telephone number, if there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or if prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

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I hereby certify that this paper and/or fee is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Printed Name:

Respectfully submitted for

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By

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